



Press Release

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Idaho 2010 Potato Crop Revised Down; Idaho 2011 Sugarbeet Production Up 9 Percent

Final disposition numbers show Idaho's 2010 potato crop totaling 113 million cwt, a decrease of 1.3 percent from earlier estimates. Field run yield of 384 cwt is 5 cwt less than the previous estimate and 31 cwt less than the 2009 crop's yield. Harvested area for the 2010 crop was 294,000 acres, unchanged from the previous estimate. For the 2011 potato crop, preliminary data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey shows that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 58.2 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Russet Norkotah accounts for 15.6 percent of plantings, and Ranger Russets are 14.3 percent of the total. Frito Lay varieties, at 1.2 percent, and Umatilla Russet, also at 1.2 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2011 crop.

Nationally, production of 2010 fall potatoes is finalized at 367 million cwt, 7 percent below the 2009 crop and 3 percent below 2008. Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2010 totalled 403 million cwt, down 7 percent from 2009 and 3 percent below 2008.

Idaho's 2011 sugarbeet production is forecast to be 5.73 million tons, up 1 percent from the August forecast and up 9 percent from a year ago. Yield of 32.2 tons per acre is up from 2010's 31.0 tons per acre. Harvested acreage is expected to total 178,000 acres, up 8,000 acres from 2010.

United States' sugarbeet production for 2011 is forecast at 29.2 million tons, 4 percent below the August forecast and 9 percent below 2010. Growers expect to harvest 1.21 million acres, up 51,900 acres from 2010. The yield is forecast at 24.2 tons per acre, down 3.4 tons from 2010.

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